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MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS AND CONSTRUCTION IN THE SATELLITES

BULGARIAN DEFENSE EXPENDITURES HIGH -- Athens, Stratotika Nea, 6 Sep 53

According to reports 75 percent of the 1953 Bulgarian budget has been appropriated for military expenses. It is estimated that the general expenses for 1953 will amount to 21,300,000,000 levas. In addition to these expenses, 9 billion levas are expected to be spent by the Ministry of Defense, militia, and frontier guards. A considerable sum will also be spent for propaganda purposes in the armed forces and other military organizations.

According to other information, a Soviet military base for the standardization of arms and the training of Soviet personnel was established in Kolarovgrad.

NEW AIRPORT CONSTRUCTED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA -- Athens, Le Messager d'Athènes, 9 Sep 53

A new airport has just been constructed at Lidarovic, near Stroomice. Its installations show that it is used as a supply station for Czech and Soviet aircraft. Also, the Jinonici airplane factory, near Prague, has been enlarged. It is surrounded by barbed wire entanglements and heavily armed towers. Workers are searched when leaving the factory.

CZECH ARSENAL UNDER CONSTRUCTION -- Athens, Le Messager d'Athènes, 9 Sep 53

Great plans are under way in Kuncice, Silesia, for the construction of a large arsenal. To link this arsenal to neighboring industrial establishments, underground roads are being built from Kuncice which will pass under the "Klement Gottwald" plant. One road will be 6 meters wide and lighted by neon lights. Another will have a conveyor-belt-type sidewalk to transport workers.

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ACTIVITIES IN CZECH SHIPYARDS -- Athens, Le Messager d'Athenes, 9 Sep 53

Increased activity has been noted recently at the Komarno shipyards due to Soviet orders for warships and transports. The Prague shipyard is also busy constructing dredgers and small coastal ships to be used on the Labe River.

EAST GERMAN WOMEN TRAINED AS PARACHUTISTS -- Vienna, Arbeiter-Zeitung, 19 Sep 53

Berlin -- According to information from the West Berlin radio, 1,200 women members of the Free German Youth organization of East Germany are to be trained as parachutists by the end of the year.

MILITARY AIRPORT CONSTRUCTED IN POLAND -- Athens, Le Messager d'Athenes, 12 Sep 53

The Babie Doly military airport (10 kilometers north of Gdynia) is now three times larger than before World War II. This airport is capable of handling the latest type planes. It has hangars, gasoline depots, and underground installations, as well as three radar stations. All the high-ranking personnel are Russians.

AUSTRIA CONSTRUCTS MOTORBOATS FOR RUMANIA -- Vienna, Oesterreichische Zeitung, 24 Jul 53

The Wiener Gleitschiffreederei GmbH (Vienna Barge Shipping Company) at Tiefkai 102 (Pier 102) has constructed two motorboats for the Rumanian People's Republic. The boats were handed over to the Rumanian trade representative at the Bruecke der Roten Armee (Red Army Bridge) on 23 July 1953. They will be in service at the World Youth Festival in Rumania.

WORK DISCONTINUED ON DANUBE CANAL -- Athens, Stratotika Nea, 13 Sep 53

It has been reported from reliable sources that construction on the Danube-Black Sea Canal has stopped. About 40,000-50,000 prisoners were working at this project. The Rumanian government has not denied this fact but, according to reliable diplomatic sources, the discontinuation of work at the project is due to the fact that the Soviets ordered that the prisoners be used in other more important projects

Athens, Estia, 26 Sep 53

Paris, 26 September -- It has been announced that all work on the Danube-Black Sea Canal has ceased. The reason given for the work stoppage is that materials and prisoner workers will be used for other projects; all the earth-removing machinery has been returned to Moscow. It has also been revealed that all the projects being carried out north of the Danube and those in other areas such as lakes have been definitely stopped.

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CHINESE WORK AT EUROPEAN SATELLITE DEFENSE PROJECTS -- Lyon, L'Echo-Liberte,  
8 Aug 53

Taipeh, 7 August 1953 -- Chinese Nationalist sources reveal that the Chiang Kai-shek government has received unconfirmed information from its diplomatic missions in Europe that more than 200,000 Chinese are being forced to work on defense systems in the Ukraine, Hungary, and in Czechoslovakia. The information reportedly comes from Chinese students who have spent some time behind the Iron Curtain.

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